



2015 Doctoral Mentoring Award Winner

Dr. Mohammad Najand

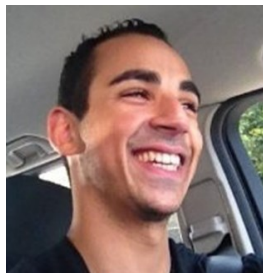
The Office of Graduate Studies is pleased to announce this year's recipient of the University Doctoral Mentoring Award, Dr. Mohammad Najand. Dr. Najand is a professor from the Strome College of Business's Finance Department.

Dr. Mohammad Najand has been selected for the 2015 Doctoral Mentoring Award for his extraordinary contributions to the Strome College of Business's Ph.D. program in business administration. His colleagues praise his commitment to the mentoring process, from admission to graduation.

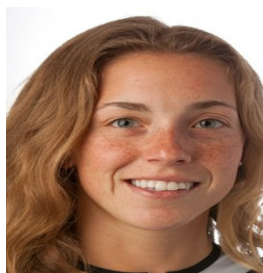
Since joining the faculty of the Department of Finance in 1987, Dr. Najand has supervised 27 dissertations, and he has collaborated with students on numerous peer-reviewed publications. Many of his former students have secured tenure-track positions at well-regarded colleges and universities across the United States. According to one former student: "His dedication to academia and his students not only contributed greatly to the successful completion of my doctoral study, but also helped me become who I am."

2015 Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award Winners

Salim Chemlal and Rachel Jastrebsky



Mr. Salim Chemlal is an advanced doctoral student in modeling and simulation engineering. He has been awarded the 2015 Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award - Classroom in recognition of his excellence in teaching ECE 241: Fundamentals of Computer Engineering. Students praise his passion and enthusiasm for the course content, and faculty in his department speak highly of his students' preparedness.



Ms. Rachel Jastrebsky is an advanced doctoral student in ecological sciences. She has been chosen for the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award - Laboratory for her exceptional performance as a laboratory instructor for BIOL 424/524: Comparative Animal Physiology. Her supervising professor praises her organizational and pedagogical skills, which eliminate the need to spend extra time reviewing laboratory assignments during lecture periods. Moreover, as one student noted: "The lab was an awesome experience. It required me to think very critically and was challenging at times, but I feel like I am a better student and hopefully a better scientist because of it."

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Summer and Fall Registration

Registration is open for summer and fall 2015. All students are encouraged to register as soon as possible to ensure course availability.

Tuition Due Dates:

Summer 2015: 7/6/2015

Fall 2015: 8/24/2015

Graduate Research Achievement Day (GRAD) 2015



Many of the best and brightest graduate student researchers at Old Dominion University participated in GRAD 2015, on April 16, 2015. More than 80 students presented their research via oral and poster presentations throughout Webb Center.

The Office of Graduate Studies congratulates each participant, and thanks each attendee for supporting our talented student researchers.

Darden College of Education's Matthew McGraw



Matthew McGraw, a Community College Leadership doctoral student presented at the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges conference. The conference was held in Nashville, Tennessee on December 6 - 9, 2014. Matthew and a colleague delivered a presentation entitled "Learning From Transitions: Building Sustainable Institutional Effectiveness Processes."





Graduate Student Spotlight

Ms. Futun Alkhalifah is a vibrant international student working to obtain her Master of Science in Dental Hygiene. Ms. Futun Alkhalifah hails from Saudi Arabia. Due to her desire to engage in applied research, she found ODU to be a perfect match in preparing for her life goal of becoming a professor of dental hygiene.

Since Ms. Alkhalifah officially entered the dental hygiene program, she has taken advantage of many opportunities to enhance her experience in and outside of the classroom. In less than a year, Ms. Alkhalifah has attended two major conferences in her field. By par-

taking in in one conference she gained one of her most exciting and notable experiences while visiting Washington, D.C. She met with legislators to discuss the importance of approving a budget which now allocates funding to support pregnant women receiving dental hygiene care during their pregnancy. Ms. Alkhalifah's expertise on this issue played a major role in the budget being approved. As a participant in this event, Ms. Alkhalifah spoke about an issue of great interest to her. That experience gave her the feeling that her voice was heard and appreciated.

Although Ms. Futun is very social and enjoys meeting new people, her major goal is embracing every opportunity to learn all there is to know about dental hygiene, especially as it relates to pregnant women. Upon returning to Saudi Arabia, Ms. Alkhalifah plans to become a professor. She also desires to assist in the creation of standardized goals and objectives for dental hygiene research.



Do you know a student who should be nominated for the Graduate Student Spotlight?

Please send your reason for nominating them along with their contact information to Raleta C. Summers at OFFICEOFGRADSTUDIES@ODU.EDU.

Service-Learning at ODU

The goal of service-learning at ODU is to educate, engage, and equip our campus community with skills and experiences that connect rigorous academic curriculum with meaningful and tangible public work to strengthen our students and communities for a sustainable future.

Service-learning provides students with integrative learning opportunities that connect the themes and theories of their coursework to tangible community-based work that enriches communities by addressing key community issues and needs in collaboration with diverse community partners.

*For more information about the
service-learning movement at ODU,
please contact:*

Emily Eddins, PhD
*Assistant Director for Service-Learning
Leadership & Student Involvement*
757-683-3065 or eeddins@odu.edu

<i>Student Benefits:</i>	<i>Faculty Benefits:</i>	<i>Community Benefits:</i>
Integrated and meaningful experiential learning	Opens doors to diverse research opportunities	Helps organizations meet diverse needs
Collaboration with people and organizations to address real community issues	Explore community perspectives and issues	Capacity building by utilizing multiple sources of knowledge
Personal, professional, and intellectual growth	Broaden teaching approach and strategies	Involvement in preparing the upcoming generation of civically engaged professionals

An Introduction to Preparing Future Faculty

Hello and warm greetings from the Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) Steering Committee.

Did you know?

Less than half of ODU graduate students feel they are prepared for an academic career as a faculty member in higher education.

What about you? Do you have professional development needs that are unmet by your graduate program? The PFF program @ ODU can help.

The PFF is especially useful for graduate students interested in an academic career at a university, liberal arts college, private college, or community college. PFF programming addresses key professional development needs such as: work-life balance, career planning and exploration, socialization into academia, and teaching foundations. PFF events offer lessons, tips, strategies, and advice to help you:

- ⇒ Maintain sanity as a graduate student
- ⇒ Succeed as a graduate student
- ⇒ Become a better teacher
- ⇒ Become a better researcher
- ⇒ Explore your academic career options

The **Preparing Future Faculty Certificate** is THE Certificate to help you better prepare for an academic career and make you more competitive in the academic job market. This certification is a nationally recognized certificate.

The **Preparing Future Faculty Certificate** can be earned by:

1. Completing a semester-long, mentored teaching-related experience
2. Attending at least 5 academic career-related events. A minimum of 3 must be PFF-sponsored events. (A list of non-PFF events that count towards the PFF certificate is available on the PFF website).

Completion of the PFF Certificate is noted on your ODU transcript.

Interested in obtaining more information about the PFF program and PFF Certificate?

- ☐ Complete a PFF interest form to subscribe to the PFF listserv: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PFFinterest>
- ☐ E-mail Dr. Wie Yusuf (jyusuf@odu.edu) for more information
- ☐ Visit the PFF website: <https://www.odu.edu/success/programs/pff>

I wish you success in your academic and career pursuits!

-Wie Yusuf

Chair, Preparing Future Faculty Steering Committee
Associate Professor, School of Public Service
Strome College of Business



Dr. Wie Yusuf

Graduate Funding

Argonne National Laboratory

Laboratory-Graduate Research Program

This fellowship is available to Ph.D. students who wish to carry out their thesis research in the lab for 1 year. Doctoral students will carry out thesis research at the laboratory, under co-sponsorship of an Argonne staff member and a university professor.

The fellowship is open to students in the following disciplines: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, School of Engineering, Basic Physical and Life Sciences, Mathematics, Computer Science, and Engineering as well as programs relating to Energy, Conservation, Environmental Impact and Technology, Nanomaterials, and Advanced Nuclear Energy Systems. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For more information, contact Lisa Reed at: 630-252-4114, Lisa-reed@anl.gov, www.dep.anl.gov/p_graduate/labgrad.htm.

Gertrude Cox Scholarship

The American Statistical Association's Committee on Women in Statistics and the Caucus for Women in Statistics offers a scholarship to encourage more women to enter statistically oriented professions. Women who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada and admitted to full-time study in a graduate statistics (including biostatistics and other statistical sciences) by July 1, 2016 are eligible to apply. The application deadline is February 23, 2016. For more information, please [click here](#).

To find more graduate funding opportunities, please visit: [Pivot](#).

Graduation Schedule

Friday, May 8, 2015

4:00 p.m.

- College of Arts and Letters

Saturday, May 9, 2015

9:00 a.m.

- Frank Batten College of Engineering and Technology
- College of Health Sciences
- College of Sciences

Saturday, May 9, 2019

2:00 p.m.

- Strome College of Business
- Darden College of Education

For more information, go to the [Commencement Site](#).

Graduate Student Health Insurance Update

This semester marked the roll-out of Old Dominion University's graduate health insurance for all international and domestic graduate students enrolled in courses at the University's main campus and higher education centers.

Mark your calendars, as the open enrollment period for the fall 2015 semester is **August 1, 2015 - September 30, 2015**. You must reenroll each fall and spring semester. The spring insurance plan's coverage ends July 31, 2015. If you wish to continue coverage, please be sure to reenroll.

Qualifying degree-seeking, domestic graduate students must enroll online at www.uhcsr.com/odu. Qualifying degree-seeking graduate students holding an assistantship and earning a minimum of \$5,000 a semester are eligible for a special subsidy. Students in this category must enroll at: <https://requestcoverage.uhcsr.com/odu>.

Please contact UnitedHealthcare's customer service center at 1-800-767-0700 or at www.uhcsr.com/odu or the Office of Graduate Studies at gradhealth@odu.edu, if you have additional questions.